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HIS LIFE TO THE LEPERS

Eight Years with the Territorial Library, Ostr.

Successor to Father Damien Interviewed.

Describes the Terrible Condition of the Leper Colonies at Canton, China, and Macao.

San Francisco Chronicle: Rev. Father Conrardi, who, for the past eight years, has been in charge of the leper settlement at Molokai, in the Hawaiian islands, succeeding the late Father Damien, is spending a few days with Henry Hoffman, at 458 Guerrero street, preparatory to seeking a climate for the winter where he will find relief from asthma, contracted on the wind swept leper island in the Pacific.

Father Conrardi has given his life to the care of lepers, and has made a deep study of that dread disease. On the island where he has been stationed there are about 1,100 persons afflicted with it. Two priests look after them, and are assisted by five sisters of the Order of St. Francis. According to Father Conrardi's statement, made yesterday, while the Hawaiian government spends much money for their cure, but little good is accomplished, the greater portion of the \$80,000 or \$90,000 annually appropriated being expended in salaries for a number of useless officials.

After leaving the islands, Father Conrardi visited the leper colonies at Canton, in China, and at Macao. In the former place he says the condition of the colonists is most pitiable. "The Chinese regard leprosy as a curse and any one who would think of going to the place as being accursed," said the priest. "The government only allows five yen a year, about \$2.50, for the support of each leper. When one is sick and needs assistance he is left to his own care. The government furnishes neither medicines nor bandages, two prime requirements. I would stay there and minister to their wants if I could get enough for my support, but the government will not allow it. I would build a hospital to care for them, but that requires money."

"At Macao the condition is a little better. The lepers are given a certain amount of rice each year. The wants of the females, both at Macao and Canton, are looked after by some French and Italian lay sisters. Last year they received over 2,000 persons, including 1,500 babies. They are called Sisters of Carossa and Sisters of St. Paul de Chartres. They raise and educate these children. They, too, are in much need of money."

Rumors of an uprising among the Chinese and against the whites came to Father Conrardi from a reliable source before his departure. He says there is a great feeling of unrest, and he looks for serious trouble before the end of the year. He says the natives are dissatisfied with their treatment.

At Molokai, in the Hawaiian islands, the natives attempt to raise a little fruit and corn, but as the plants approach maturity a withering wind comes along and blights everything. If the Hawaiian government would erect windbreaks, it might be possible to raise fruit. As it is now the lepers have become discouraged and are lazy and indifferent. They attend school about as they please. The government requires the girls to remain with the sisters until they are 16 years of age, but after that they do as they please. While the majority of the lepers have been converted to Catholicism, the remainder are either Calvinists or Mormons.

During his stay here Father Conrardi will visit the lepers at the pest-house. "If there were enough of them, I would be willing to stay among them and minister to their wants," he said. "I have messages for some of them from friends in Honolulu." Father Conrardi was well informed regarding their condition, and knew the names of several of them. In the virtues of the Goto remedy Father Conrardi puts but little faith. He is well acquainted with Dr. Goto and has frequently discussed with him the chances of curing the disease. Both had come to the conclusion that it was incurable.

BLEW OUT THE GAS.

Wyoming Farmer Narrowly Escapes Death at New Albany Hotel.

KANSAS CITY, Sept. 2.—A tall, raw-boned young man, wearing a gray suit of clothes and a wide brimmed hat, walked into the New Albany hotel yesterday and wrote on the register, L. M. Huss, G. N. P., Wyoming. He was assigned to room 41 on the second floor, and about 11 o'clock he went to bed. Night Clerk Joseph Welsh had occasion to go through the hall on the second floor about 2 o'clock this morning, and as he passed the room occupied by Huss he caught a strong odor of gas. The transom was open and the gas was pouring out into the hall. Welsh knocked on the door of No. 41, but could get no response. He tried the clock and found it fastened.

He became alarmed and summoning help, broke down the door. Huss was found in peaceful unconsciousness and he was dragged out into the hall, where, after considerable work, he was revived. When he opened his eyes his thought was that he was being revived. It was with difficulty that he could be persuaded that he had been rescued from death.

"What did you blow out the gas for?" asked Clerk Welsh.

"Well, I had to get the darned thing out some way," answered the stranger. "I ain't used to sleepin' in the light."

PRESS ASSOCIATION.

Visit McKinley and Listen to Words of Deep Wisdom.

CANTON, Sept. 2.—Eighty-six members of the Republican Press association of West Virginia, called on Major McKinley yesterday afternoon. W. P. Morris acted as spokesman and in conclusion of his remarks, said that the vast wealth of West Virginia was chained and helpless without protection.

In response Mr. McKinley said that the Republican cause was never more just and righteous than it is this year and the triumph of its principles was never more essential to the general welfare of the American people than now, nothing being more essential to the standing and progress of a country than the preservation of its credit and financial honor, and nothing being more indispensable to business and prosperity than that the currency of the country shall be so honest that it can cheat nobody. But lying beneath all these, and more important than all, is the preservation of law and order, the reign of domestic quiet. The people appreciate that a great crisis is upon them and the way to avert that crisis is for the patriotic men of every section of the country to unite and act together in the common cause of the country.

YOUNG PEEL TOO GAY.

A Letter Responsible for Breaking of English Engagement.

LONDON, Sept. 2.—The sudden rupture of Sir Robert Peel's week old engagement to Ella, daughter of Lord Ashton, has caused much talk and has called forth the publication in the Daily News, of which Lord Ashton is part owner, of a statement announcing that the engagement was unauthorized and that there is not the remotest possibility of such a marriage taking place. It is now reported that the rupture was caused by the fiancée's receipt of a letter from a woman who was a friend of Mrs. Langtry and Abington Baird. This she showed to her father and the latter promptly gave Sir Robert Peel, who was staying at Rylands, his conge.

The two first met a month ago, and it was a case of love at first sight. Sir Robert invited Lady Ashton and Miss Ella to Brayton, and on the third day of their visit he proposed and was accepted. Lord Ashton consented to the engagement and promised to supplement Sir Robert Peel's income of \$25,000 by giving his daughter \$75,000 yearly.

SPILED HOPS.

Methodists Surprise a New Saloon Started in Their Camp.

LEAVENWORTH, Kan., Sept. 2.—The Methodists of this conference district have been holding a campmeeting for several days near Bonner Springs in Fairmount township, this county. A large crowd attended, most of whom sleep in tents.

Wednesday night Dave Hutchins and Bob Dorr went out to Bonner with a wagon load of beer and joint fixtures. While the church people were asleep Wednesday night, Hutchins and Dorr pitched their tent in the Methodist camp. When the Methodists awoke this morning they were astonished to see a big tent with "refreshments" printed on it in large letters and bar tenders standing around wearing white aprons. Hutchins and Dorr were on the road to jail within an hour and the liquor was spilled and their temporary saloon a wreck.

CAUGHT IN FIRE.

Forest Fires Overtake and Destroy the Herds in Oregon.

PORTLAND, Ore., Sept. 2.—Forest fires are raging between Oak Point and Eagle Cliff on the Washington shore on the Columbia river. An area three miles square has already been burned. It is reported that dozens of cattle have been burned, one rumor placing the number at 200.

Many millions of feet of lumber have been burned, estimates running as high as 20,000,000. Benson's logging and lumber camp, with all the buildings, was destroyed.

Many animals dropped dead from the excessive heat.

PARDONED OUT TO DIE.

TOPEKA, Kan., Sept. 2.—Governor Morrill signed the pardon of D. R. Jones, who, in 1894, commenced an attestation for dishonesty. While acting as county clerk of Barton county he acquired about \$6,000 by false pretenses and forgeries on the county treasurer. The serious illness of the convict was the leading argument in favor of clemency. His death is considered a matter of but few days.

FORNIST FREE SILVER

Gold Democrats in Convention.

About Eight Hundred Delegates Present.

Governor Flower of New York, the Choice for Temporary Chairman.

INDIANAPOLIS, Sept. 2.—Senator John M. Palmer of Illinois called the convention of gold Democrats to order at noon today in Tomlinson hall. The gathering exceeded expectations both in point of members and the states represented. The lists in the hands of Secretary Wilson show over 800 delegates present representing forty-one or forty-two states and territories.

After calling the convention to order Chairman Palmer said: "Gentlemen, I have the honor for a moment to provide over the first National Democratic convention held in the year 1896. We are assembled here for lofty, noble and patriotic purposes. Our earnest desire is to serve our country. And in sincerity of that earnest purpose, we may appeal to the judge of all hearts. We may appeal to the great master, the great governor. I beg you now, listen to the invocation by Bishop White of the diocese of Indiana."

Ex-Congressman Outhwaite of Ohio read the call for the convention after the prayer. In reading the reference to Jefferson, Jackson and Cleveland, Outhwaite put particular stress upon Cleveland's name and brought the delegates to their feet with cheers louder than any gone before.

In roll call Colorado answered "Solid delegation of one," for California, John P. Irish answered "Here," adding that his colleagues had been delayed by a railroad accident. Montana being called, a gentleman announced, "A solid delegation; here it is." At call of New York her seventy-two delegates arose. General Bragg of Wisconsin declared the presence of a full delegation, adding that they are all Democrats, honest men, honest money and honest government. Idaho, Nevada, Utah and Wyoming were the only states whose names passed unanswered. Alaska's single representative was cheered. Oklahoma and Indian Territory had no spokesmen. Senator Palmer introduced Mr. Brennan of Wisconsin, who read the report of the National committee. The recommendation that rules "which governed the last Democratic convention, which was held in 1892, should govern this convention," was cheered to the echo. The report recommended ex-Governor Flower of New York for temporary chairman and John R. Wilson of Indiana, temporary secretary. The mention of Flower's name was the signal for a burst of applause which swelled into a war cry. Ex-Governor Jones of Alabama and Geo. F. Peabody of Massachusetts escorted him to the stage. Senator Palmer shook hands with ex-Governor Flower, who bowed in response to the demonstration. General Flower read his speech from manuscript in a clear voice. It was frequently interrupted with applause.

President Cleveland's name elicited an ovation. His characterization of Bryan as "ambitious, unsteady and unsafe," as a "demagogue and word juggler," raised a storm of applause.

Flower's statement that bimetalism was a genuine Democratic doctrine was received in silence. Flower's speech was concluded at 1:45. The states were then called for members of committees, etc.

The convention then took a recess until 4 o'clock.

BY BULLETIN.

Suggestions of Waterson for president which seemed to have been highly satisfactory yesterday, seem to have gained no ground today.

The Kentucky delegation is pledged for Buckner for vice-president and the sentiment seems to be drifting back to the original ticket suggested at Chicago—Bragg and Buckner. The convention will complete permanent organization and then adjourn till Thursday, as a big mass meeting has been arranged for tonight, at which Colonel Breckenridge of Kentucky, Colonel Fellows of New York and Mr. Ehrlich of Colorado and other orators will speak. Ex-Governor Flower, who has been selected as temporary chairman of the National convention, will deliver the opening speech.

Dr. Everett's assertion that Massachusetts and New England were here to back up the west and south in preserving the honor of the country, caused great enthusiasm. He said Massachusetts was against all class distinction, that it was for poor and rich alike and knows no distinction between north and south or between east and west. He said Massachusetts stands by President Cleveland who has steadily maintained the honor of the country.

The committee on permanent organization reports in favor of Senator Caffery of Louisiana as permanent chairman.

The committee reports in favor of the permanent National organization of the party here represented and the report was accepted.

Senator Caffery took the chair and said the action of the Chicago convention in packing that convention by throwing out the Michigan delegates, leaves the real Democrats free and none are in any way bound by its action, which in its platform was in almost every way un-Democratic and non-patriotic.

He predicted that the party of the Chicago convention will be a "wanderer and a fugitive on the face of the earth." He says free coinage as proposed will rob the poor man of his wage, the rich man of his wealth, the soldier of his just remuneration and be the repudiation of just and honorable debts. He says we are not to be driven from the house of our fathers, nor driven into the camp of the Republican party; while Democracy lasts the republic shall last and with it human liberty. He says we are the upholders of the old Democracy doctrine and we appeal to the people to unfurl the flag of the old Democracy, which was never sullied by repudiation or dishonor.

Caffery in closing called on all true Democrats to rally for their country's liberty and honor.

John P. Irish of California was called to the platform to address the convention. He said we are here to defend what is dearer than life—our National honor and integrity. Irish referred to the Populist convention at Chicago and the Populist convention at St. Louis as the twin conventions, but by no means the "Heavenly Twins."

Irish strongly attacks the protective tariff policy of the Republican party and says we must do what we can to resist such a policy, as well as against the policy of the traveling representative silver mine owner.

The convention adjourned at 5:40 until 11 a. m. tomorrow.

IRISH'S STATEMENT.

He Says Bryan Will Lose California, Oregon and Possibly Nevada.

INDIANAPOLIS, Sept. 2.—John P. Irish of California, who has been one of the most active leaders of the gold Democratic movement on the Pacific coast, says the people of the east are not aware of the conditions existing on the coast and declares that three states, California, Oregon and Washington cannot be carried for Bryan and that there is a possibility that Nevada will be carried against him. "In California," said he, "there are enrolled 25,000 Democrats who will not vote for Bryan. The Populists concede that there are 12,000 Republicans who will vote for Bryan. They are those who are discontented and belong largely to the class of men who want to remodel the affairs of the world."

"There is a curious alliance on the coast between millionaires and those who have nothing to lose in case of disaster. Those who are for the Chicago ticket are big millionaire mine owners. Gold mine owners are not for the ticket. They want the price of their gold enhanced and would like to put their working men on silver. Fruit growers, manufacturers, and all business men that want business accommodations from time to time, and the men they employ are against Bryan. They want stability."

"California, Oregon and Washington will not vote for Bryan. He will be beaten in California by 15,000."

"There is also a fair prospect that he will be beaten in Nevada. The two senators and one representative in congress credited to Nevada are residents of California. Many citizens of Nevada resent this. They would like to have men who represent them in their nearest relations with the National government to be residents of their own state. This feeling is so strong that it may result in defeating Bryan, who has been so strongly supported by the three men, Jones, Stewart and Newlands, who now represent the state."

Mr. Irish says the majority of the California delegates prefer Bragg and Buckner for a presidential ticket.

GLAD SWEET SONG.

Famous Tenor to Be Married to a Divorced Countess.

LONDON, Sept. 2.—Jean de Reszke, the famous tenor, is soon to be married to the Countess de Mailly Nesle. Both are Catholics and they cannot marry after the latter's divorce from her husband except by a dispensation from the pope. It is believed this has been obtained and the wedding is likely to take place on De Reszke's estate in Poland, during the early part of October. It is also understood that the tenor will abandon the stage in 1898.

HOMESTRETCH.

Driver of a Horse at Green Bay Expires in His Sulky.

GREEN BAY, Wis., Sept. 2.—John Holmes, a well known horseman of the western circuit, drove Pewabic under the wire a dead man at the trot meeting here yesterday in the 2:06 trot. Holmes had Pewabic for first place within ten feet of the finish. Then his head fell forward, the lines slackened and the horse was stopped after passing the judges' stand. Holmes was dead.

WISKY AND THEOLOGY

First One and Then the Other.

Pastor Tries Both and Finds Gospel the Best.

Leaves the Pulpit to Sell Rum—The Saloon Falls to Pay and Goes Back to Gospel.

The New York Journal relates the experience of a New Jersey clergyman as follows:

Rev. Julius Feicke, the Jersey City clergyman who last summer created a sensation by severing his connection with the South Bergen Classis and opening "a beer saloon at Fifth and Garden streets, Hoboken, has now given up the saloon and returned to the church. He found beer selling did not pay, and having made his peace with his ministerial superiors, has re-entered the pulpit, in charge of the German Evangelical church, of Bethlehem, Pa.

Mr. Feicke is an educated and polished German. He says he never could see any harm in the saloon business, if it was properly conducted, except for the prejudice against it. On opening his place in Hoboken he declared that he was forced into the business to save his family from want, his salary as pastor hardly proving sufficient to buy shoes for them.

Feicke's venture, however, did not prove a success. At first quite a number of people were attracted to his saloon by curiosity to see how the clergyman could mix a cocktail or operate the ale pump, but after the novelty wore off the place somehow seemed to be shunned by the respectable portion of the neighborhood, the people, apparently, having an instinctive feeling that the clerical saloon combination was not altogether appropriate.

Mr. Feicke has a mortgage of \$1,600 on the place he opened last year. Since then he has managed to pay that off and to clear only \$125, which now represents his capital. He was suspended by the South Bergen Classis for his contumacy in refusing to live on a pittance allowed him for preaching, but made a hot fight on the question of his right to sell beer if he saw fit. He propounded a series of questions on this subject to the Classis, but that body never answered.

The pastor's saloon was always a moral place and conducted in the most orderly manner. He has now disposed of it, and started yesterday for Bethlehem.

The pastor's wife and family are now living in New York city. They will join him in Bethlehem as soon as he is seated in his new home.

NO CONVICT COAL.

Penitentiary Directors Refuse to Accept a Bid.

LEAVENWORTH, Kan., Sept. 2.—The directors of the Kansas penitentiary met yesterday to let the contract for the output of the Kansas coal mine. There was only one bid submitted, that of J. Husey of Arkansas City, who offered 85 cents a ton for screened lump. The board did not care to accept such a low bid and rejected it on the grounds that it was not accompanied by a certified check for \$1,000.

There was a great demand for this penitentiary coal contract until six months ago and it was let for \$1.50 a ton. Hard times and labor fights on the coal have caused the change. Committees from labor organizations were present today and protested against the letting of any contract. At present there are over 200 convict miners doing nothing but supplying coal for state institutions.

FELL HALF A MILE.

Frightful Death of a Woman Aeronaut Not Far From St. Louis.

ST. LOUIS, Sept. 2.—Victoria Le Roy made a balloon ascension from the new county fair grounds near Dwyer station on the Missouri Pacific. At a height of about forty feet her parachute became disengaged and fell to the ground. She struggled to extricate her left arm from an iron ring through which it was passed, but before she could do so she was at least 200 feet in the air. She clung to the trapeze bar, but it was only a question of time until her strength would fail her.

At a height of nearly half a mile the woman aeronaut lost her hold and fell somersaulting to the ground. She crashed through a tree, being not only killed, but indescribably mangled. Her husband saw her death.

EIGHT GAMBLING DENS RAIDED.

ARDMORE, I. T., Sept. 2.—United States marshals raided eight gambling dens in this city, capturing as many layouts, and illuminated Main street with a series of bonfires, burning all the paraphernalia captured. The raid caused great excitement among the members of the profession.